

The Fifth Element of the Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF)

REGIONALIZATION

The Marine Corps is reorganizing its bases and stations along regional lines to provide better support to the war fighter. Additionally, the regional approach will clarify supported and supporting relationships while strengthening roles and responsibilities for Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection within the U.S. Northern Command. Marine Corps Installations (MCI) East and West were established on 1 October 2005 and are already consolidating functions and staff, and completing regional Strategic Plans. MCI National Capitol Region, MCIMIDPAC and MCIWESTPAC will be established in FY 2007. Each MCI will be commanded by a General Officer with the responsibility for representing regional interests and generating economies of scale and efficiencies in base development and operations. The bases and stations within the MCIs will be commanded by Colonels.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE VENTURE (PPV) HOUSING

The FY 1996 Military Housing Privatization Initiative (MHPI) is an essential tool used by the DoN to meet its goal of eliminating inadequate housing by 2007, and to reduce the shortfall of adequate and affordable private sector housing in the local community available for military members and their families. The Marine Corps is successfully using the program to: obtain an adequate supply of safe,

contemporary and affordable homes for families; exercise flexibility to meet dynamic regional requirements over time; leverage private-sector capital and operating efficiencies; exploit the operating experience and best practices available in the commercial housing marketplace; and maintain consistent quality housing services for military members across the DoN.

The Marine Corps will continue with its current aggressive privatization approach to privatize approximately 97 percent of its inventory. The Marine Corps will continue to incorporate lessons learned from the expanding portfolio of DoN awarded projects to refine its Privatization Program. These projects ensure rents and reasonable utilities usage do not exceed a service member's basic allowance for housing rate. Personnel from installations, including senior enlisted personnel, continue to be actively engaged in developing Public-Private Venture (PPV) projects which are structured to ensure sufficient cash flow to adequately operate, sustain and recapitalize the inventory over the 50-year life of the business agreements. Once privatized, day-to-day management responsibility for family housing resides with the Marine Corps' private partners. As a member of Limited Liability Company boards, the DoN continues to participate in key business decisions and to monitor performance by the managing partners.

BARRACKS INITIATIVE



As the Marine Corps has invested substantially to improve Family Housing, it has also focused on similar standard of living improvements for single enlisted Marines. The Marine Corps will provide them with suitable living conditions and positive leadership as they continue to develop as Marines. Plans are in place to invest more than a billion dollars in the next few years on bachelor housing construction and improvements.

ALMAR 106/98 addressed the need for policies that properly assign Marines to rooms/ spaces, articulate visitation procedures, allow responsible alcohol consumption, and establish guidance on proper room decorum. The Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ) Campaign Plan has been updated to provide a common roadmap for management of BEQs. It takes into consideration changes in barracks design and billeting configurations, plus clarifies the Commandant's intent to provide an atmosphere that supports unit development and cohesion while respecting barracks as the home of single Marines.

GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

The Marine Corps requires a significant variety of data for the efficient operations of its installations. Much of this information is geospatial in nature and can be arrayed to provide effective installation management, improve stewardship of natural resources, and protect the environment. In April 2003, the Commandant approved the Marine Corps vision for management and use of geospatial data and technology and established software and data standards for the Installation GIS program known as *GEOFidelis*. *GEOFidelis* defines the people, policies, and information resources necessary to acquire, manage, and sustain installation and environmental geospatial assets (imagery and data).

GEOFidelis maintains the Common Installation Picture that consists of satellite imagery and common data layers (i.e., buildings, roads, airfields). The Common Installation Picture supports a full realm of installation management requirements such as facilities planning, asset management, environmental protection, encroachment control, and disaster preparedness planning with geospatial data, maps, and tools for visualization and management. Additionally, *GEOFidelis* supports non-traditional areas such as the Critical Infrastructure Program, Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection initiatives, range management, Explosive Safety Siting, communications initiatives and coordination with the Marine Corps Intelligence community. Through

this coordination, the Marine Corps has realized a significant return on investment and improved business processes by using the Common Operational Picture. GEO*Fidelis* will continue to provide precise and reliable information at the installation and enterprise level to support geographic components of multiple decision support systems, while providing commanders situational awareness needed to respond to contingencies and to coordinate consequence management.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Since the 1980s, the DoD has applied significant focus on reducing its consumption of electricity, steam, fuel oil, water, and natural gas. This effort was based not only on the need to preserve natural resources and environmental considerations, but also in response to the significantly increasing costs for those commodities. In the early 2000s, military installations and the operating forces (most notably those located in the West Coast states) were severely impacted by the near overnight doubling and tripling of the costs of electricity and natural gas. This event, combined with the continued turmoil in the Middle East and that region's control on the bulk of the world's oil supply, has renewed the President's, Congress's and DoD's desire to significantly reduce our military's use and consumption of utility commodities. As a result, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 mandated reduced use of fossil fuels, electricity, and water at a rate of no less than 2 percent per year. This law also required

all new military facilities to be constructed to a higher standard of energy efficiency and in such a way that their design takes into consideration the long-term financial and operational impacts of energy usage and environmental compatibility (called "sustainable design"). In addition, on 24 January 2007, the President signed Executive Order 13423 that requires further energy reduction to three percent per year, increased use of renewable energy sources, and water consumption reductions. Capitalizing on these mandates, energy conservation and intelligent and aggressive planning for optimizing energy usage for Marine Corps installations infrastructure are key considerations of all installation managers.

ENCROACHMENT CONTROL

Encroachment is defined as any external force that causes the loss of military readiness, including the loss of use of land, air, sea, and frequency spectrum. Monitoring, evaluating, and responding to encroachment is critical to ensuring bases and ranges are available to support mission readiness now and in the future. The Sustainable Ranges initiative is a process that integrates all aspects of installation and range/training area management, and provides for the installation's and the region's long-term viability and ability to support realistic training. The Marine Corps is proactively engaged with federal, state, and local government agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations to provide "win-win" solutions to

encroachment pressures that are designed to allow compatible land use and ensure mission readiness is not degraded.

The tools used to ensure compatible land use include:

- Encroachment Control Plans, which document specific encroachment problems and solutions; assign action responsibilities; and, involve multiple stakeholders
- Air/Range Installation Compatible Use Zone studies, which when implemented prevent and mitigate public exposure to hazards (safety and noise) associated with aircraft operations and air-to-ground weapons delivery
- Joint Land Use Studies, which assist local communities in considering the impact of military training areas when planning local development
- Land Conservation (Encroachment) Partnering, which use OSD and Marine Corps operation and maintenance funds to partner with states and non-governmental organizations in acquiring “non-training” buffer lands
- Community Plans and Liaison Offices at each installation, which manage various community involvement and outreach issues, including the growing pressures associated with encroachment.
- Major and minor land acquisitions to acquire interests to control incompatible development in the vicinity of military installations.